## **Claims**

## What is claimed is:

- 1. A device for holding an item to be engraved comprising:
  a tray adapted to be engaged by an engraving machine and comprising at least one
- 5 recess;

said recess containing a mold;
said mold comprising a cavity adapted to hold an engraveable item; and
having an inner surface conforming to the shape of at least a portion of the outer
surface of said jewelry item.

- 10 2. The device set forth in claim 1, wherein said tray comprises multiple recesses containing multiple molds.
  - 3. The device set forth in claim 1, wherein said recess is defined by a bottom surface and a side surface extending from said bottom surface, and further comprising a notch extending into said tray from said side surface.
- 15 4. The device set forth in claim 2, wherein each of said recesses are defined by a bottom surface and a side surface extending from said bottom surface, and further comprising a notch extending between the side surfaces of at least two of said recesses.
  - 5. The device set forth in claim 2, wherein said multiple molds have multiple cavities and said inner surfaces of said cavities are of a different shape.
- 20 6. The device set forth in claim 1, wherein said mold is vulcanized rubber.
  - 7. The device set forth in claim 1, wherein said item is a jewelry item.

- 8. The device set forth in claim 1, and further comprising a jewelry item positioned in said cavity and an engraving machine.
- 9. The device set forth in claim 1, wherein said jewelry item has an irregular cross-section.